

THERE ARE HEROES AND HEROES OF HEROES, BUT THERE IS NO ACCOUNT IN THE DARING AND GLORIQUE HISTORY OF THE WEST OF HEROISM THAT CAN COMPARE WITH THE BLACK DIAMOND'S LAST-MINUTE CHARGINTO THE JAWS OF DEATH TO TRY TO SAVE A PLATOON OF U.S. SOLDIERS! SEF INSIDE!





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BLACK DIAMOND

IN THE DAYS OF THE DESPERADOES!

LOSE ON THE HEELS OF THE PIONEER AND FRONTIERSMAN CAME THE GREEDY OPPORTUNIST, READY TO TURN FRIEND AGAINST FRIEND, TO BETTER HIS OWN PERSONAL GAIN! SUCH WERE THE MEN WHO PLIED THE INDIAN WITH TRINKETS AND WHISKEY, AND THEN CHEATED HIM OF HIS LAND!

CAPTAIN!
CAPTAIN! THEY'RE
GETTING READY
TO RUSH
US!

MEN! THIS IS IT!

MAKE EVERY SHOT

COUNT!

SIR! LOOK-UP THE HILL! HUNDREDS OF 'EM! AND, THE BLACK DIAMOND'S LEADIN' 'EM!

VERE

... WHEN TWO SUCH MEN, FOR THEIR OWN GRIM PROFITS, LAID A FIENDISH PLOT TO SET AN INDIAN TRIBE ON THE WARPATH, IT WAS UP TO BOB VALE AS THE BLACK DIAMOND TO STEP IN AND PREVENT THE BUFFALO WAR!



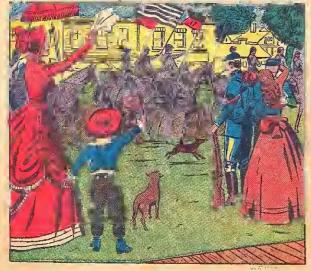




GENTLEMEN, THE INDIAN HAS BEEN ABUSED AND MISTRUSTED TOO LONG... PERHAPS THIS WILL SHOW THE WAY TO A BETTER UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN RED AND WHITE MEN! I'LL SIGN THE PAPERS!



















RIGHT,







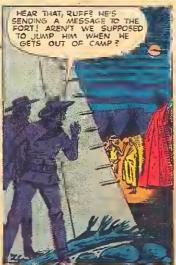
























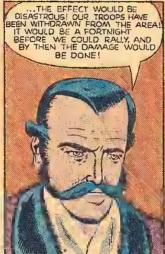








































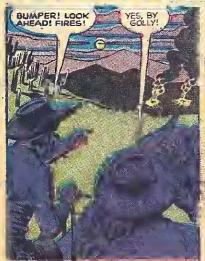














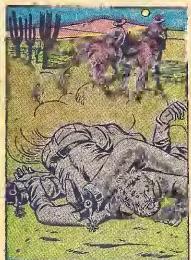








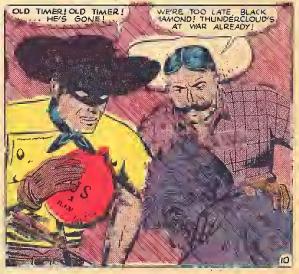












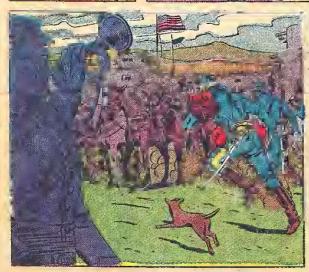




























































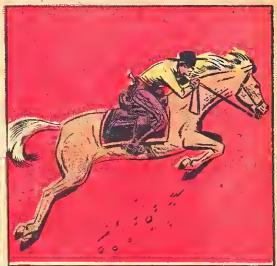




















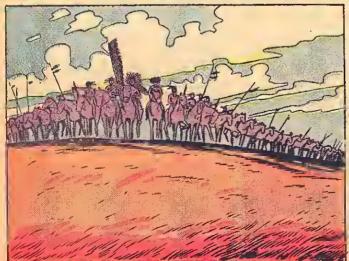














































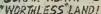
DUEL AT THUNDER FLAT!

DRAWN ESPECIALLY FOR "BLACK DIAMOND"



THOUGHT HE'D PULLED OFF A GREAT JOKE WHEN HE SOLD A PIECE OF DESERT LAND TO A TOTAL STRANGER FOR \$100, UNDER THE PRETENSE THAT THE LAND CONTAINED SILVER!

THE STRANGER HAD A GOOD LAUGH ABOUT IT, TOO! OF COURSE HE DIDN'T FIND SILVER-THERE WASN'T ANY-BUT HE DISCOVERED RICH DEPOSITS OF BORAX WORTH \$500,0000 ON THAT





(266 FEET BELOW SEALEVEL) THE AIR IS SO DRY THAT PEOPLE DO NOT PERSPIRE THERE EVEN THOUGH THE TEMPERATURE IS 135" IN THE SHADE! (AVERAGE RELATIVE HUMIDITY IN THE U.S. IS 65% - IN DEATH VALLEY 5%) THE AIR EVAPORATES THE LIQUIDS FROM A HUMAN BEFORE THEY REACH THE SURFACE - IT IS POSSIBLE TO DRINK A GALLON OF WATER EVERY HOUR OF THE DAY AND NIGHT AND STILL REQUIRE MORE! MANY OF THE OLD PROSPECTORS DIED IN THE VALLEY BY LITERALLY DRYING UP! THEY NEVER

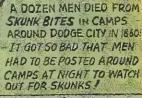
REALIZED WHAT WAS HAPPENING TO THEM UNTIL IT WAS TOO LATE!



FORM OF PUNISHMENT USED BY A PENITENTIARY OF THE OLD WEST WAS TO PLACE BAD PRISONERS IN A TANK OF RUNNING WATER IN WHICH THERE WAS A HAND PUMP - HE HAD TO KEEP PUMPING TO KEEP FROM DROWNING!



IN THE GOLD RUSH DAYS SOME PEOPLE MADE MONEY WITHOUT STRIKING GOLD ONE INGENIOUS FELLOW BECAME A MILLIONAIRE BY RENTING AND SELLING CATS FOR \$100 EACH TO PEOPLE TROUBLED WITH RATS!





SKILL BY PRACTICING EVERY DAY - DRIVING NAILS INTO BOARDS BY SHOOTING THEM IN FROM 50 FEET AWAY!

"I WAS ASHAMED OF MY FACE

until Viderm made my dreams of a clearer skin come true in one short week

(FROM A LETTER TO BETTY MEMPHIS SENT HER BY ETHEL JORDAN, DETROIT, MICH.)



If your face is broken out, if bad skin is making you miserable, here is how to stop worrying about pimpies, biackheads and other externally caused skin troubles.

JUST FOLLOW SKIN DOCTOR'S SIMPLE DIRECTIONS

just want to be alone!" Is there anything more awful than the blues that come when your face is broken out and you feel like hiding away because of pimples, blackheads and similar externally caused skin troubles? I know how it feels from personal experience. And I can appreciate the wonderful, wonderful joy that Ethel S. Jordan felt when she found something that not only promised her relief-but gave it to her in just one short week!

When I was having my own skin troubles, I tried a good many cosmetics, ointments and whatnot that were recommended to me. I remember vividly how disappointed I felt each time, until I discovered the skin doctor's formula now known as the Double Viderm Treatment. I felt pretty wonderful when friends began to rave about my "moviestar skin." No more self-consciousness. No more having my friends feel sorry for me. The secret joy, again, of running my fingertips over a smoother, clearer

Many women shut themselves out of the thrills of life—dates, romance, popularity, social and business success—only because sheer neglect has robbed them of the good looks, poise and feminine self-assurance which could so easily be theirs. Yes, every body looks at your face. The beautiful complexion, which is yours for the asking, is like a permanent card of admission to all the good things of life that every woman craves. And it really can be yours—take my word for it!—no matter how discouraged you may be this very minute about those externally caused skin miseries.

What Makes "Bod Skin" Get That Way?

Medical science gives us the truth about how skin blemishes usually develop. There are small specks of dust and dirt in the air all the time. When these get into the open pores in your skin, they can in time "stretch" the pores and make them large enough to pocket dirt particles, dust and infection. These open pores become infected and bring you the humiliation of pimples, blackheads or other blemishes. Often, the natural oils that lubricate your skin will harden in the pores and result in unsightly blemishes.

When you neglect your skin by not giving it the necessary care, you leave your-self wide open to externally caused skin miseries. Yet proper attention with the Double Viderm Treatment may mean the difference between enjoying the confidence a fine skin gives you or the embarrassment of an ugly, unbeautiful skin that makes you want to hide your face.

The Double Viderm Treatment is a formula prescribed with amazing success by a dermatologist and costs you only a few

cents daily. This treatment consists of two jars. One contains Viderm Skin Cleanser, a jelly-like formula which penetrates your pores and acts as an antiseptic. After you use this special Viderm Skin Cleanser, you simply apply the Viderm Fortified Medicated Skin Cream. You rub this in, leaving an almost invisible protective covering for the surface of your skin.

This double treatment has worked wonders for so many cases of external skin troubles that it may help you, too in lact, your money will be retunded if it doesn't. Use it for only ten days. needs and watch ing to lose. It is a gustanteed treat-those skin blem, ment. Enjoy it. Your dream of a clearsmoother complexion may come true in ten days or less.

Use your Double Viderm Treatment every day until your skin is smoother and clearer. Then use it only once a week to remove stale make-up and dirt specks that infect your pores, as well as to aid in healing external irritations. Remember that when you help prevent blackheads, you also help to prevent externally caused skin miseries and pimples.

hist mail your name and address to Betty Memphis, care of the New York Skin Laboratory, 206 Division Street, Dept.D-1, New York 2, N. Y. By return mail you will receive the doctor's directions, and both



jars, packed in a safety-sealed carton. On delivery, pay two dollars plus postage. If you wish, you can save the postage fee by mailing the two dollars with your letter.
Then, if you are in any way dissatisfied,
your money will be cheerfully refunded.
To give you an idea of how fully tested and proven the Viderm Double Treatment is, it may interest you to know that, up to this month, over two hundred and thirtyone thousand women have ordered it on my recommendation. If you could only see . the thousands of happy, grateful letters that have come to me as a result, you would know the joy this simple treatment can bring. And, think of it!—the treatthent must work for you, or it doesn't cost you a cent.



A. sereen stor's face is her for-tune. That's why she makes it her business to protect her comtlexion against pimples, black-beads and blem-ishes. Your face is no different. Give ishes go away.

CAPTAIN JOSH BRAD

A GUN IN HIS BACK AND A CANNON AIMED ON HIS SHOALED RIVER BOAT, "THE HARBOR BELLE," COULDN'T STOP HIM IN HIS BATTLE WITH A BAND OF RIVER RATS!





















TOO

WELL





























































































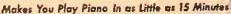








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SHERIFF WADE LANGLEY

its way through the dusty, sleepy cow town its way through the dusty, sleepy cow town if Skull Creek. Sheriff Wade Langley lounged against the adobe door of the adobe jail and watched the trains go by through the stifling clauds of dust. He was filled with envy at the sight of the hundreds of families heading out to the abundant plains and ore-laden mountains of the far West. But it was not the gold or the rich farmland that called him. It was excitement! The lure of new territory, of the blood-tingling struggles that always accompany the settlement of a new land, meant life itself to him.

He looked down the shady main street of the town of Skull Creek. Where once there had been the brawling muddle of a frontier town, there was nnly a scattering of quiet citizens going

about their prosaic business.

Sheriff Langley chuckled to himself, "I guess it's all my own fault, too. This wouldn't he such a gol-darned dull town if I hadn't been good with a six-shooter. I've been a pretty effective

sheriff, if I do say so myself."

In the days following his restlessness grew. Each new wagon train made him ache to join in the rush for new lands and new lives. Each quiet and peaceful day made him more dissatisfied with his peaceful routine. Outside of tracking down a small-time rustler now and then, intervening in the frequent hut mild Saturday night hrawls in the Buckeye Saloon and settling disputes never water rights, Langley's days were uneventful. Skull Creek certainly belied its name.

Finally the pull was too much to resist.

One evening Langley spent a couple of hours in the Buckeye with Joe Twiller, leader of the most recent wagon train to camp in the valley near Skull Creek. The two exchanged news of the area, rumors of the trail ahead for the wagon train, then...

"How about adding another wagon to your

train, Joe?"

"Well, Langley, that depends on whose it is.
If there are some able bodied men aboard, why

sure. If not . . . "

Langley interrupted quickly, "It's mine, Joe. Skull Creek is just too dead for me. The day for a sheriff with a six-shooter is over in this section of this country. All they need here is a small-town constable who can take the drunks in on Saturday night and let 'em out Sunday. Why, my guns haven't been shot in so long they'll prohably spit pansies. I'd sure like to come along and see if a change of scenery—and action—will keep me from turning old hefore my time."

Twiller slapped Langley on the back and shouted, "Sheriff, you're in! We're leaving Tuesday at dawn. Meet us at the cottonwood tree by the fork. And I can't tell you how happy I am to have you with us—especially with the Apaches

ahead!"

The next morning Sheriff Langley handed his resignation to the Mayor and recommended that Bill Slade, the twenty-year-old that had been acting as his deputy, be made temporary sheriff

in his place.

"Langley," said the Mayor, "in fifteen years you have changed Skull Creek from a lawless frontier town into a law-ahiding community. Everyone knows that it's your skill and courage that's done it. Why, you've traded shots with some of the West's worst killers—and bested them. It ain't right, sheriff, your going away and leaving Skull Creek with a new law officer—and one that's barely cut his teeth at that! It just ain't right. When word gets around that Skull Creek has practically no sheriff at all, we'll have all sorts of good-fur-nothings invading the mwn!" "But, Mayor," replied Langley, "You have

"But, Mayor," replied Langley, "You have Bill Slade here. He's what you need for a town like this. To be sure, he's no match for Jesse James, hut he's able to take care of a town like Skull Creek. Nope, I'm going on to country that has a place for my kind. Well, Slade's waiting at the jail for me now. If you don't mind, Mayor..."

"Sure, Langley." The Mayor reached up to shake the sheriff's hand. "I guess all of us who have grown with the West want to move on now that things have settled down here. I guess ynu're right. Bill Slade is all the town needs in the way nf law enforcement—just enough to make the hoys mind their manners. He's a nice kid, but... Well, anyway, good luck and good hunting."

Langley strode out of the city hall and turned

down the street toward the jail.

Bill Slade, a quiet, awkward youngster who had been made a deputy largely because he had hung around Langley's office adoringly since he was ten years old, was waiting for the Sberiff.

He sat on the edge of the desk now as Langley

cleaned it out for the last time.

"I s-s-sure am going to miss you, Wade," said Bill. "I'm awful grateful to you for having the mayor appoint me sheriff, h-b-but it sorta worries me all the same. What if a guy like that Slim Burell should hob up in t-t-t-town! Golly, we'd

sure need you then!"

"Slim Burell!" Langley laughed derisively and searched through the mess of papers on his desk until he found the poster he wanted. "Look, Bill, listen to this. "Wanted. For Robbery and Murder. Slim Burell. This man, on the night of July 9, robbed the Gulch City Stage Coach Company of \$10,000 single-handed, killing two employees of the company and wounding another. His description follows:

Slim Burell: About thirty years old; six feet one, slender, dark hair, sharp features. Can be identified by a triangular scar on his right cheek. Use caution. This man is a dead shot and a

notorious killer.'"

"The day Slim Burell comes to this town I'll pack up and come hack here again. Why, that hombre is probably headed toward the Dakota badlands right now! I might even meet him someplace on the road! Anyway, it's a sure thing that you'll never meet him in Skull Creek. Even a lawbreaker has to have some excitement when he's hiding nut."

"I hope that's right," said Bill. "I sure wnuldn't

look forward to t-t-t-tanglin' with a guy like that!"

"Well, you'll do all right, and don't worry about any Slim Burells. They just don't grow in this territory any more." With that, Langley turned over the jail keys to Bill, wished him luck and left.

The next day the sun was just striking the brow of the hill as Wade Langley, tapping his four-horse team lightly with his reins, eased his wagon down the gentle slopes towards the caravan. He felt as free as a frisky young colt. Below him, he could see the wagon train stirring, getting in line to start the journey over the deserted plains which lay between them and their goal. In a few moments he would be on his way, kicking the dust of Skull Creek off his boots, bound for new land and new adventure.

The early morning sun was hot. Langley pulled his team to a halt on a small, grassy ledge beside the creek, dismounted and knelt down beside the running water. He drank thirstily. As he turned away and walked up over the embankment, he found himself suddenly face to face with a lanky cowhand leading his horse down to water. Both started, then Langley smiled and said, "Howdy. I didn't see you coming." The cowhand grunted, ignored Langley's hand and went on down to the edge of the water.

Langley shrugged and thought to himself, "That's strange behavior for anybody from this section." With that he dismissed the matter

from his mind.

He climbed back aboard the wagon, clucked to the horses and started down the slope.

As he approached the caravan, Joe Twiller greeted him.

"Howdy, Langley! Where've you been? We're ready to leave."

"I'm ready to start any time you are."

'By the way, Joe,' said Langley, 'Did you see that scar-faced cowhand go by a few minutes ago? I wondered if he was part of your outfit.'

"No," replied Joe, "He isn't with us. Must be riding alone. Well, swing your wagon in behind

mine and we'll get started."

"Gee-hup!" Langley slapped bis horses with the reins and the wagon ambled and jogged forward.

As he settled down for the long tedious journey, the strange behavior of the cowhand at the edge of the creek came to mind. Idly he wondered what outfit the man was from. As he joggled along in the sun, reins dangling, he musingly chewed a long hlade of grass and tried to place the scarred face of the cowhand in its proper category.

"I sure thought I could place everyone in this county," he thought, "but I'll be hanged if I canfigure out why that guy looks so familiar. If anybody has a good memory for names and faces, it's a sheriff, but on this one I'm stuck."

Suddenly he picked up the reins, slapped them across the horses backs, swung the wagon out of line on two wheels and pulled up parallel to loe Twiller.

"Joe! I'm going back to town! Help me unharness a horse and then put a man on my wagon! Hurry!" Joe looked at Langley and laughed, "Are you crazy!" What's the matter? Did you forget to kiss the Buckeye barmaid goodbye?"

"Cut the joking." snapped Langley, "Remember that guy I told you about? It's Slim Burell! I'm sure of it! And the Skull Creek bank is getting that gold shipment from the West today. There's no one in town to stop him except Bill Slade, and he couldn't scare a rabbit!"

Langley slipped the last harness strap free, mounted on his horse, and wheeled back to the

east, riding hell bent for leather.

It was a scant twenty minutes later when the sheriff clattered into Skull Creek.

Bang! Bang bang! Bang! The sound of shots made him spur his horse even faster in the direction of the bank. The street was ominously silent. Every person had ducked into houses or stores.

Langley jumped from his horse and raced through the door of the bank. As he entered the shadowed room, guns cocked, he suddenly felt a jab in his back and heard a quiet, sure voice say, "Drop those guns, stranger, and stand where you are."

The sheriff obeyed. He had been caught breaking one of his own cardinal rules—to always know what's in back of you. His guns hit the floor. Langley raised his hands. "OK, Burell, you've got me!"

There was a moment of silence. Then the voice said, "Burell! Burell's lying on the floor with a bullet in his head. Why, Great Scott! What are you doing here, Langley? I thought you were one of Burell's sidekicks!"

Langley turned quickly and found himself face to face with Bill Slade, sheriff pro-tem of Skull Creek. He looked at Bill and suddenly discovered—in place of the stuttering, fumbling youngster he had left in charge of his office—a strong, sure figure with steel in his eye and authority in his voice.

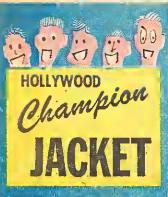
"Why, Bill Slade!" said the chagrined Langley, "You sure got the drop on me that time. But I'm mighty glad you waited to find out who I was before finishing me off. And here I thought that you . . . Tell me what happened."

Bill smiled, "Well, this Burell killer thought he'd like to make an informal call on the bank today. But somehow I didn't like his manners when he rode into town, and I liked them even less when I followed him in here and heard him make a couple of rude demands of the teller. I called him on it, and we exchanged a couple of shots before he saw fit to lie down quietly. He's a pretty good shot, that Burell, but he didn't have either the aim or the draw that you drilled into me, Langley. Oh, what were you going to say about what you thought of me?"

"Not a thing, Bill. Not a thing," replied Langley softly. "Skull Creek certainly has been left in better hands than I thought. Well, I'd better get going if I'm going to catch up with that wagon train in time for grub. So long, kid."

Langley took a last look at Slade, no longer a boy but a man, and thought to himself, "That's sure one on you, Laogley. But never let it be said that you stuck around when you weren't needed. I guess there's still a lot of this country that has a place for a man like me."

THE END



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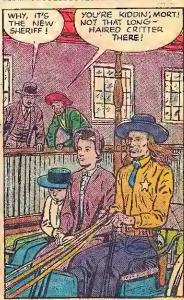
SHERIFF GORDLANDS THORPE

HIS COURAGE AND DARING BROKE UP A VICIOUS RANGE WAR AND BROUGHT PEACE TO SUNDOWN VALLEY. IN: THE 1880'S!



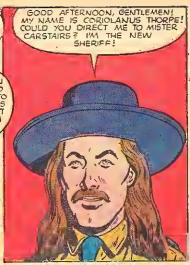


















































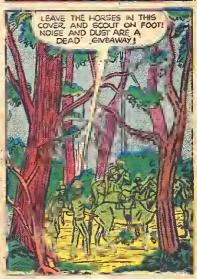


















































































STAMP PAGE by SIDNEY M. ELIAS

Tannou Touva

F YOU are a collector of odd shaped stamps such as diamonds and triangles, you most likely have some stamps of Tannou Touva in your collection, for during 1934-b, this country issued no less than 51 of these odd shaped

The name Tannou Touva is somewhat mysterious as well as quite difficult to locate on a map but, if you knew its more common name of Outer Mongolia, you would not have any trouble in finding it, Tannou Touva or Outer Mongolia lies between the south. ern border of Siberia, and northwest of Inner or Chinese Mongolia somewhere in the central portion

of Asia.

Now that we have located Tannou Touva, let's find out about its inhabitants and what they do for a living. The country for the most part is a wilderness with a good portion of it unexplored. Large mountain ranges mostly covered by snow all year long, lock the entire country in on all four sides. The land within these mountains is a large plateau covered with lakes and rough country. The climate during the winter months is severe, averaging 12 degrees below zero and during the summer averages 66 degrees. In other words, the severe winters and its inacessibility discourages people to settle in Tannou Touva. There are however hardy people living there but they are for the most part Mongolian tribes. These tribes live in tents or makeshift huts and earn their livlihood by raising sheep, ponies, and reindeer. They do not remain in one place long for whenever they need new grazing lands for their animals they just pack up and leave. In addition to Mongolian tribes, there are Turkic and Chinese and a mixture of all three.

In 1911, with the fall of the Chinese Empire, Outer Mongolia declared its independence. In 1924, a republic fashioned on the Soviet Russian style, was put into effect. Since then there has been a steady influx of Russian inhabi-

fants.

Stamps of Tannou Touva are manufactured in Russia and most of them are sold to stamp collectors, as few Mongolians can either read or write.

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THE SEMINCLE SEMINCLE SEMINCLE TRIDIANS TROBANS GREW BEARDS AND MUSTACHES!

THEY ALSO SHAVED THE HAIR FROM THEIR HEADS EXCEPT FOR A STRIP DOWN THE MIDDLE WHICH WAS BRAIDED IN THE BACK AND A STRIP AROUND THE FOREHEAD

THE SNOW SNAKE

IT IS A SMOOTH PIECE OF HICKORY STICK ABOUT 7 FEET LONG - USED IN PLAYING AN INDIAN GAME!

THEY SLIDE THE STICK OVER
ICE OR SNOW — THE DISTANCE
AND POSITION OF THE

STICKS DETERMINE THE NUMBER OF POINTS THE PLAYERS GET. THE PAIUTE INDIANS OF ARIZONA
BUILT AND LIVED IN THE CRUDEST FORM OF
HOUSE KNOWN TO MAN!

IT WAS JUST MADE OF SEVERAL BRANCHES SUPPORTED BY TWO STICKS, PLACED IN A SEMI-CIRCLE AND COVERED WITH LEAVES OR GRASS! THEY WERE JUST BIG ENOUGH FOR ONE PERSON TO CRAWL INTO!



ARMOR WAS IN COMMON USE BY THE HUPA INDIANS — IT WAS MADE OF CEDAR RODS BOUND TOGETHER WITH NATIVE TWINE AND FITTED LIKE A VEST.

IT WAS FAIRLY EFFECTIVE AGAINST ENEMY ARROWS BUT NOT BULLETS!

HUMAN FOWS!
SCARECROWS:
WERE USED BY
THE VIRGINIA INDIANS!

AN INDIAN WAS POSTED IN THE CORN FIELDS
TO SCARE AWAY CROWS—WHICH HE DID BY
SHOUTING OR SHAKING A RATTLE!





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